

SAHBA HOME & GARDEN SHOW

OCT. 18, 19 & 20

It will be easy to spot Tucson Water's space at the 2013 Fall Home & Garden Show – just look for a crowd of people:

- ★ getting free stuff like activity books and giveaways for kids, homeowner water and landscape guides, info on rebates and incentives, and more.
- ★ meeting and talking with our experts about water quality, conservation, resource management, home water audits, and more.
- ★ spinning the wheel or answering a “water” question to win a rain gauge, water bottle, pocket screwdriver, and more.



The 2013 SAHBA Fall Home Show runs Friday-Sunday, October 18-20, at the Tucson Convention

Center. Find Tucson Water in Aisle 1200. Contact the Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SAHBA) at (520) 795-3025 or at sahbahomeshow.com for show hours, exhibitors list, parking maps, discounts and more.

Your water CONNECTION

Fact: Tucson Water no longer relies

solely on pumping groundwater wells for drinking water. In 2012, we met more than 90% of drinking water demands with a blend of groundwater and Colorado River water delivered via Central Arizona Project (CAP) pipelines to the Clearwater Renewable Recharge Facility.

What is Tucson Water doing to ensure a reliable supply of drinking water, even in times of Colorado River shortage or ongoing drought?

- 1) Investing more than \$250 million in recharge facilities, including basins, recovery wells, reservoirs and booster stations at the Clearwater Facility.
- 2) Taking our yearly full CAP allocation of 148,420 acre-feet of Colorado River water.
- 3) Banking unused CAP water so it's readily available for the future. In 2012 alone, Tucson Water stored nearly 50,000 acre-feet of CAP water.
- 4) Stopping leaks, and promoting conservation and efficiency programs – within Tucson Water and with all users.



As Arizona's largest municipal subcontractor of Colorado River water, Tucson Water takes a major interest in working with CAP and regional users. In this issue of *Your Water Connection*, you'll meet CAP representative Tom McCann and learn more about water resources for future generations.

Alan Forrest, *Tucson Water Director*



PIMA COUNTY

Sanitary Sewers and Storm Water Systems

Many people living in Pima County may have lived in communities with combined sewer systems. These systems carry both raw sewage and storm water to wastewater treatment facilities where the comingled flows are treated. In Pima County, there are no combined sewer systems.

Except for small areas in the Town of Sahuarita and the Town of Marana, the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department owns and operates all the public sanitary sewers in the county. We are responsible for more than 3,400 miles of sanitary sewer pipes.

Pima County also owns and operates its own storm water collection system. The storm water collection system allows storm water that collects on streets and properties in unincorporated areas of the county to flow into storm water systems that carry these flows to area rivers and washes. Each incorporated jurisdiction in Pima County is responsible for operating and maintaining its own storm water system.

Storm water systems are designed and constructed to manage rainfall. Sanitary sewers are designed to handle the community's sanitary sewage as well as storm water that infiltrate the system through vent holes in manhole covers. However, during extreme rain events, the sanitary sewers may become inundated resulting in a sanitary sewer overflow.

If you see raw sewage flowing out of manhole after a storm – or at any time – please contact PCRWRD at (520) 724-3400. A PCRWRD crew will resolve any sanitary sewer system issues and clean up the spill. You can help PCRWRD to keep our public sanitary sewer system working in top shape while protecting our environment.



CITY OF TUCSON

Bag & Tie Your Trash

Help Keep Tucson Clean



Tucson prides itself on the beauty of our desert, the unique vegetation, and the clean environment. Unfortunately, too much litter is detracting from the views that we value so much. Our streets, sidewalks, and medians are littered with trash. Plastic bags, aluminum cans, bottles, cigarette butts, and paper are all part of the problem. One easy step that we can take to help clean up our streets is to bag and tie trash before it's put out for collection.

Loose trash in a garbage container can blow away as it is being dropped into collection vehicles or can escape from a knocked over container. When you bag and tie your trash, you help to:

- **Control windblown litter.** Windblown litter causes accidents, gets caught in our washes and vegetation, doesn't degrade, and is expensive to clean up.
- **Eliminate odors and flies.** Garbage from our homes, particularly food waste, diapers, and paper products, should be bagged to control odors which attract flies and other pests.

If you don't want to purchase trash bags, reuse plastic bags from the grocery store or retailer. When plastic bags are reused to bag trash and other waste, they will not blow away and won't contribute to the litter problem. If you have a shared alley container, your neighbors will appreciate your efforts, and if you have curbside trash service, bagging and tying trash will keep your container clean.

Your utilities services statement includes fees for your water, wastewater, and environmental services.

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) – For more information about the regional wastewater system, call (520) 724-6500 or visit <http://www.pima.gov/www>.

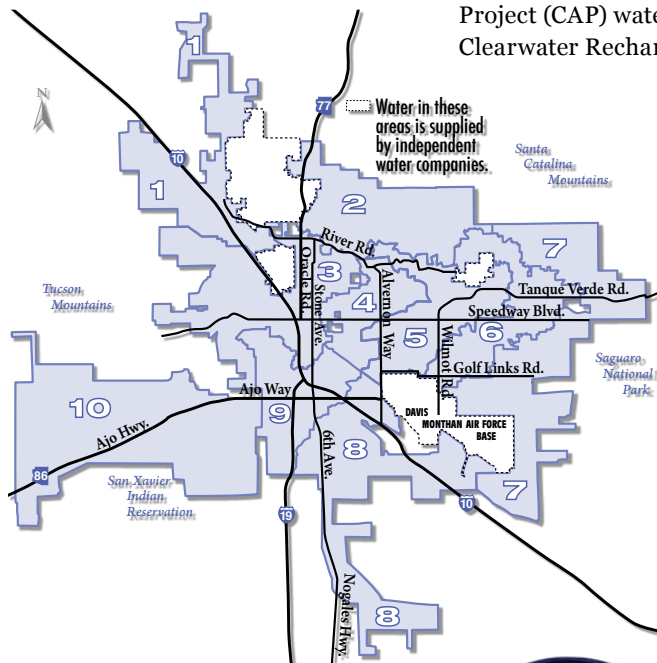
Environmental Services (ES) – Learn about how ES is protecting our groundwater and the environment at tucsonaz.gov/esd and (520) 791-3171.

Water quality report

August 2013



More than 20,000 individual water quality tests are performed annually on the drinking water derived from two sources: 1) groundwater and 2) the blend of recharged Central Arizona Project (CAP) water and groundwater from the Clearwater Recharge and Recovery Facility.



Groundwater Source Report – About 95% of the water we deliver comes from renewable water supplies. These test results reflect the main distribution system, divided into 10 zones:

test results

*mg/L means milligrams per liter
1 mg/L = 1 teaspoon in 1,302 gallons
SP = Sample Points

Zones	Sodium (mg/L*) 84 SP	Mineral Content (mg/L*) 246 SP	Hardness (mg/L*) 84 SP	pH Level (S.U.) 246 SP	Temperature (deg°F) 246 SP
1	54	466	256	7.6	87
2	64	483	229	7.9	87
3	59	421	193	7.9	87
4	55	404	192	7.9	88
5	59	439	204	7.8	87
6	64	462	238	7.9	87
7	50	386	192	7.9	88
8	52	450	245	7.6	87
9	55	440	198	7.7	87
10	56	403	159	7.8	88
Avg	57	435	207	7.8	87

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has primary standards for levels of coliform bacteria and the disinfectant chlorine.

coliform

EPA standards for positive samples

Positive results
247 samples



chlorine

EPA Standard
Max. 4.0 mg/L

Tucson Water
target
average
0.8 to 1.2
mg/L

Actual Average
247 samples 0.7 mg/L

Clearwater Report – More than 50% of our total water supply is a blend of recharged CAP water and native groundwater from Clearwater. Using this recovered blended water means that we reduce groundwater pumping.

Sodium	66 mg/L	(Aug. 7, 2013)
Mineral Content	469.6 mg/L	(Aug. 9 – Sept. 10, 2013 avg.)
Hardness	236 mg/L	(Aug. 7, 2013)
pH	8.19 S.U.	(Aug. 9 – Sept. 10, 2013 avg.)
Coliform Bacteria	Negative	(July 25, 2013)
Chlorine Level	1.06 mg/L	(Aug. 9 – Sept. 10, 2013 avg.)
Temperature	83.3 °F	(Aug. 9 – Sept. 10, 2013 avg.)

To obtain water quality information, go to **tucsonaz.gov/water** and click on the Water Quality tab for maps, reports, and more. Call (520) 791-4331 to schedule speakers, ask for an Annual Water Quality Report, or to request brochures.

Focus on CAP Water in Our Future

We recently met up with Tom McCann, Assistant General Manager, Operations, Planning and Engineering for the Central Arizona Project (CAP) to talk about long term drought and Colorado River water levels. McCann provided insight on the CAP and future water supplies:

What is the CAP? “The CAP delivers Colorado River water via 335 miles of canals from Lake Havasu to southern and central Arizona. CAP delivers more than 1.5 million acre feet of water per year to Arizona customers.”

Who are CAP customers? “CAP customers include Tucson and other municipalities, industry, Native American contractors, agricultural users, and recharge. Municipal and industrial contractors share top priority with Native American users should there be a Colorado River water shortage.”



CAP's Tom McCann facilitating a planning session. He has primary responsibility for CAP water and power operations, engineering, planning, recharge and the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District.

Are we in a drought now?

“Yes, the Colorado River basin, along with much of the western United States, has been in a drought since 2000. Even so, our major reservoirs are still nearly half full. But with the projected impacts of climate change, we will have tough decisions to make at some point.”

Does a drought translate into an immediate shortage for Tucson Water customers?

“No, a shortage on the Colorado River is not likely before 2016. Even then, the reduction to CAP water deliveries would not impact higher priority users like Tucson. We do not anticipate shortage affecting municipal and industrial subcontractors for many years. Plus, the Arizona Water Bank has stored more than 3 million acre-feet of excess CAP water underground for use when river water supplies are reduced.”

Is there a plan to handle a Colorado River water shortage?

“Yes, there is a 2007 Drought Management Plan adopted by the seven states along the Colorado River. The plan defines shortage levels and changes in water release levels.”

Go to www.cap-az.com for more information about CAP.

Storing and Conserving Colorado River Water

- 60 million acre-feet of storage capacity in Colorado River reservoirs, including Lake Powell and Lake Mead; enough to hold about four times the average annual flow of the river.
- 3 million acre-feet stored to date by the Arizona Water Banking Authority; 172,000 acre-feet in Tucson Water storage facilities.
- 75,000 to 100,000 acre-feet conserved annually by the Brock Reservoir, paid for by CAP and two other major water districts.

SCAN



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water

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